

THE KEYSTONE STATE.

The Pittsburg Times on Maryland's Election Amendments—Greatest Danger is Continuance of Gorman Domination—Negro Rule a Bugaboo.

Homestead, Pa., Special.—We do not know whether it will actually come to pass, but recent events seem to point to a movement for the gradual disfranchisement of the Afro-American in the Southern States upward. The disfranchising fever has now reached Maryland, and we in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who enjoy the blessings of an untrammelled suffrage, look with amazement at the startling tactics of the Gormanites. The Pittsburgh (Pa.) Times, one of the most influential and important newspapers of Western Pennsylvania, in speaking of the special session of the Maryland Legislature to act on the election amendment, says editorially:

"The Maryland Legislature assembled yesterday in special session for the purpose of meeting the alleged urgent necessity of immediate legislation reforming manifest and great abuses in the election laws. This is the way the Democratic Governor of the State worded his call for the extra session, but what he really meant was that legislation was desired to be enacted which would disfranchise about nineteen-tenths of the 53,000 colored voters of the State, by which act it is hoped the Democrats will be able to maintain an unbroken hold upon the government of Maryland. The amendment which will be proposed to the election laws will be ostensibly directed against the illiterate voter, but it will depart from all similar legislation in the Southern States if it is not so worded as to make it most difficult for even a well-educated colored man to vote while it permits the most ignorant white man to cast a ballot. A measure which would be impartial as between the races and disfranchise ignorance, whether enthroned in a white Democrat or a colored Republican, after a certain period had been allowed existing voters to qualify themselves, would not be objectionable but it is doubtful if any such measure would meet the approval of the Democratic leaders of Maryland.

Their object is to retain their own party strength and deplete that of the Republicans and in doing so they propose to discriminate in an unlawful manner against the rights of the great bulk of the colored voters of Maryland. There is no excuse for this. Maryland is in no danger whatever from Negro domination, the cry which is used in States farther south. The best interests of all its citizens are in far more danger from the continued dominance of the Gorman crowd, and the efforts of the latter to entrench themselves in power by illegal means should be met by the use of every constitutional means that can be invoked by the best citizens of the State regardless of their party affiliations."

Every Afro American reader of The Colored American in Maryland should keep a tab and note every republican who lends his aid to perpetrate this lasting stigma upon the suffrage rights of Maryland's black citizens, whose highest ambition is only to enjoy the benefits of political suffrage as defined by the Constitution.

After a period of thirty-eight years when the pen stroke of the immortal Lincoln gave to the Afro-American the coveted freedom, it has come to pass that South Carolina still retains a form of slavery inconsistent with the laws of nature and God. One can hardly be-

lieve that the news was really authentic, so glaringly infamous and debasing were the details of the process adopted by the inhuman contractors. South Carolina has outdone itself in abridging the rights of its colored citizens, and there is no way for the State to recover its lost prestige other than by a thorough investigation of its stockade system, and to mete out the most drastic punishment to the guilty parties. Whether she will do this is an open question.

Mrs. J. Payne, and son John, of Uniontown, Pa., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Newton Huggins, of Ann street. Rev. Bower of the 10th Avenue A. M. E. church is preparing to have a concert, at which some excellent talent will lend their assistance. Mr. Edwards, an energetic young Afro-American, is taking a course of journalism at the Sprague School of Correspondence, of Detroit, Mich.

One of the most horrible accidents that has happened at the steel works lately, occurred last week, when Chas. Coleman, of Pittsburgh, who was employed at open hearth mill no 1, fell in to a pot of molten metal and was literally cooked to death. Coleman was 37 years old, and leaves a wife and several small children.

The Colored American's representative is Mr. Jas. Aikens of this city, and any items of news for the paper can be addressed to him at the Homestead post-office, or box 884, Munhall, Pa. Communications can also be left at Mr. McGorely's stationery store on 8th ave. where The Colored American is for sale each week. Mr. Aikens is fortified with the proper credentials from the Home office, and any business he conducts for the paper will be readily recognized.

Mrs. Newton Huggins of Ann street, is very ill with heart trouble. On last Sunday Mr. Jas. Dickerson, and John Lee were ordained deacons of the Baptist church by the Rev. C. S. Samuels. Rev. G. Sally of Duquesne, made the ordination prayer, while the pastor, Rev. Taulton preached the ordination sermon. A very large congregation witnessed the ceremonies.

Services at the A. M. E. church were very well attended, and at two in the afternoon the remains of Mr. Coleman, the Afro-American who met such a horrible death at the mills on Friday, were brought to the church, and Rev. Bowser preached a funeral discourse from the text, "Who is it among you that shall not see death." One sad reminder of the terrible accident was the absence of relatives. The pastor dwelt finally on the uncertainty of life, and exhorted his hearers to be prepared for the inevitable summoner—death. At the evening service Rev. Bowser's text was, "Wisdom cryeth out in the streets;" with the context: "He alone is wise that saveth his own soul." The church is a very fair condition, fourteen conversions were reported from the revival, with twenty-four accessions to the church during the conference year.

The Women's Mite Missionary Society is doing excellent, and preparing to give an entertainment. They also expect to go to the convention with very flattering reports of their work. Mrs. F. E. Bowser is president and Miss Nora King is secretary.

Last week Rev. F. E. Bowser visited Washington, Pa., and the pastors of that place and Cannonsburgh have made arrangements through the politicians of Washington county to have two Afro-Americans in positions at the court house, and another in a lucrative position at Harrisburgh. Rev. G. G. Himer, will be a delegate to the State convention from Washington county,



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Braddock has two colored churches. Rev. Young looks after the spiritual welfare of the worshippers of the A. M. E. church, while the Rev. J. L. Wauzer presides over the Baptist edifice.

Mr. R. H. Jones, a prosperous Afro-American and proprietor of the Hazel House and Cafe, is one of Braddock's popular citizens.

Tuesday evening, April 2nd, there will be a grand concert for the benefit of Mr. William Bolden, at Blue Ribbon Hall, and the home talent will be assisted the Lone Star Quartette of Homestead, together with Messrs. Tiponey White, Joseph Bell, and Daniel Charleston, who will give an unique impersonation of the Williams and Walker cake walk.

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It will be seen therefore from the above that no one need be without a watch equal for time-keeping to any in the neighborhood, a single day longer. Indeed it will not take a day for any one to get a small club of subscribers for The Colored American, the national newspaper of the race and the newest and best race journal published. Try it once and see for yourself how easy it is to get this watch and to get only two subscribers for The Colored American. Don't lose time but attend to this matter as soon as you see this notice. Money can be sent by Post Office Money Order, Express Order, Bank Check, or Registered Letter. Address—

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